## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)
MASAMI KATO	: Examiner: I. Sherali
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned	: Group Art Unit: 2621
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	: )
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD	: ) · November 17, 2003

This application is a division under 37 C.F.R § 1.53 (b) of Application No. 09/466,907.

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.